

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
Logistics Operations School  
Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools  
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**STUDENT OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE: RESERVE LOGISTICS OFFICER COURSE**

**LESSON TOPIC NUMBER: RLO D107e**

**LESSON TOPIC: AMMO MALFUNCTION AND DEFECT REPORTING**

**INSTRUCTIONAL REFERENCES:**

1. MCO 8025.1, Class V(W) Malfunction And Defect Reporting
2. MCO 8020.10A, Marine Corps Ammunition Management and Explosive Safety Policy Manual

**OVERVIEW:** *The purpose of this class is to familiarize you with the requirements for the submission of malfunction and defect reports.*

**(SHOW SLIDE 2, ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES)**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

a. Terminal Learning Objective: Given commander's guidance, unit T/O&E, and the references, supervise a unit ammunition account, to ensure requirements are accurately calculated and maintained to support mission requirements. (0404.01.03)

b. Enabling Learning Objective: Given commander's guidance, the billet of the unit ordnance officer, a written test, and the references, identify the requirements for the submission of malfunction and defect reports, per the references. (0402.01.03f)

- (1) Identify the definition of a malfunction.
- (2) Identify the two classifications of malfunctions.
- (3) Identify the definition of a defect.

(4) Identify the information included in malfunction and deficiency reports.

## 1. DEFINITIONS

a. Malfunction. A malfunction is a failure of an ammunition item to function in accordance with the design, intent and expected performance when fired, launched or otherwise employed as specified.

(1) Malfunctions do not include occurrences resulting from negligence or malpractice. However, malfunctions do include the abnormal or premature functioning of an item as a result of normal handling, maintenance, storage, transportation, and tactical employment.

(2) ALL malfunctions must be reported. Malfunctions can be classified in two ways:

(3) Hazardous. A malfunction which causes injury or death to personnel or causes damage or destruction of equipment. The following are examples:

(a) Inbore premature

(b) Close-in premature

(2) Non-hazardous. A malfunction which does not cause injury to personnel or damage to equipment.

(a) Misfire. When a chambered round does not function at all. Examples of misfires resulting from human error or weapons failure would be:

1. Failure to completely close the bolt/breech mechanism.

2. Improper assembly of firing mechanisms and locks.

3. Failure to install firing pins.

4. Failure to replace worn or broken firing pins.

5. Weak springs in firing mechanisms and firing locks.

(b) Misfires will be handled by the using unit.

(c) Misfire procedures will be performed and ammunition left in the weapon for the safe waiting period as prescribed by the appropriate technical instruction. When the appropriate time has elapsed, remove the ammunition from the weapon, replace all safety devices and return it to the appropriate shipping container.

(d) Properly mark and return the round to the ASP from which it was drawn.

(e) Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) personnel assistance will be required only when the using unit is unable to clear the round from the weapon, or when all safety devices cannot be replaced.

(f) Hangfire. Delayed firing caused by faulty ammunition. For a few seconds, a hangfire cannot be distinguished from a misfire.

(g) Dud. Ammunition items that have failed to function upon impact at the target.

1. Examples of duds resulting from human error or weapons failure are:

a. Failure to remove safety wires, pins, etc., from the fuze.

b. Shearing off of delay fuzes on impact with rocky or hard surfaces.

c. Failure to set the fuze from a safe to an armed position.

d. Use of improper fuze.

2. Premature and delayed bursts may result from:

a. Improper fuze setting.

b. Failure to remove muzzle covers or other obstructions.

c. Improper head spacing of machine guns.

d. Permitting live rounds to remain in overheated weapons chambers.

e. Double loading mortars.

f. Abuse or mishandling of ammunition or fuzes.

b. Defect. An imperfection which may prevent an item from functioning as intended or result in a malfunction. Examples of defects include missing bore riding pin, cracked cartridge case, loose primer, missing safety pin, etc.

## 2. MALFUNCTION AND DEFICIENCY REPORTS

a. Preparation and Submission of Reports. MCO 8025.1D establishes procedures for preparation and submission of ammunition Malfunction and Defect Reports. This order consists of an introductory section and four enclosures. It is important to remember that ALL malfunctions and defects must be reported.

(1) Enclosure (1), Ammunition Malfunction Reporting Instructions. Malfunctions that produce injuries, fatalities, or cause an ammunition lot to be locally suspended must be reported by telephone and writtem report within twenty-four hours. All other malfunctions must be reported within ninety-six hours. A supplemental report must be submitted once all information concerning the malfunction has been collected, determined, and evaluated.

(2) Enclosure (2), Sample Malfunction Message Format. The following format applies:

(a) Unit identification and POC phone number.

(b) Ammunition data.

(c) Weapon data.

(d) Description of malfunction.

(e) Prevailing conditions.

(f) Storage conditions.

(g) Remarks.

(3) Enclosure (3), Ammunition Defect Reporting Instructions. Defects that cause an ammunition lot to be locally suspended must be reported by Naval message or letter within twenty-four hours. All other defects must be reported within 15 days of defect identification.

(4) Enclosure (4), Sample Defect Message Format. The following format applies:

(a) Unit identification and POC phone number

(b) NSN/DODIC, nomenclature, and lot number of the item.

(c) Description of defect(s) and local action taken.

(d) Quantity defective and total quantity remaining on hand of the lot in question.

(e) Activity from which received (if known).

b. NAVMC 10155. This guide, a wallet size laminated form, summarizes those facts which must be gathered at the scene of the malfunction to enhance reporting accuracy. A copy should be provided to each officer or SNCO who may supervise operations involving expenditure of ammunition.

### **3. ACTION REQUIRED BY A UNIT EXPERIENCING A MALFUNCTION**

a. All ammunition malfunctions must be reported, including those experienced in combat operations. When an ammunition malfunction occurs, the officer in charge at the scene of the malfunction shall take the following action:

(1) Cease fire.

(2) Render assistance to casualties.

(3) Identify and retain all witnesses.

(4) Initiate action to safeguard all weapons, position material, ammunition, and fragments which will provide evidence as to the cause of the accident or malfunction. All evidence will be held for 120 days after the accident or malfunction pending investigation.

(5) Request the inspection of the weapons or ammunition for serviceability prior to their removal from the position.

(6) Record all evidence of unauthorized disassembly, alteration, or substitution to the ammunition and weapon involved.

(7) Segregate all ammunition of the malfunctioning lot for turn in to the ASP.

(8) Obtain all data and information required for the initial report, and report the accident and location to parent unit.

(9) Report copies are kept for two years.